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***** BUILDING PEOPLE, SERVING GOD *****

Coming Events

Sept 6: 8.00 AM Men's Breakfast@ Effie's in Campbell(1st Sat of the Month: Oct 4, Nov 1, Dec 6)

Sept 20, 8:30 AM: Women's breakfast @ Effie's in Campbell

Worship-*Traditional – 9.00 AM *Contemporary Service - 10.45 AM Online Service - https://ilcsaratoga.org/live.php (Live stream)

Sept 28, 10:15 AM: One Congregational Service

**Rotating Safe Car Park – 91% full. Sign up here: Safe Car Park

Inspirational Christian Story – Page 17; Bible Crossword Puzzle-Pg 8
Bible Wordoku-Pg 12; Bible Coloring for Therapy-Pg 19
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"Volunteer to Serve on Sundays!"

*Please sign up for weekly Altar Guild ***

*Shelter Meals Schedule: Please Sign up to cook or serve***



Pastor Derek Writes...



By Pastor Derek Engfelt





Pastor Derek Writes...

"No eye has seen,
No ear has heard,
No mind has conceived
What God has prepared for those who love Him."
The Apostle Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, 2:9

New life is coming... Soon our church family will celebrate with Alyssa & Bailey Morgan a new gift of life. The arrival of Baby Girl Morgan is expected some time in September. The joy will be great for the Morgans – and for all of us at Immanuel – as we celebrate the blessing God will bestow upon this young couple.

Our family will also be celebrating the gift of new life, as a baby boy is expected mid-to-late October for our daughter Emily and her husband, Colin. They (and we) can hardly wait!

But even as we can anticipate these blessings to come – and the joy that we all shall share – there is much that cannot be fully understood or appreciated by these young couples until they experience it for themselves. For they are first-time parents.

They can read *What to Expect When You Are Expecting*. They can prepare their thoughts, their hearts, their homes. But those who have experienced parenthood firsthand well know that there is so much more besides. A richness, a fullness, that cannot be adequately explained or fully appraised. And how we rejoice to anticipate the fullness of the blessing that will (quite literally) be birthed into their lives!

But as much as we rejoice at the life given on earth, we may anticipate an even greater surprise of what God has prepared for us in heaven. We can hardly envision it – for how much greater will heaven be than even the full extent of our imaginations.

Our thoughts toward the eternal should in no way lessen our will to live in the here-and-now. Our thoughts of eternity should instead infuse our present living with passion and joy. Knowing our eternal destination blesses us with divine perspective. It allows us to live with confidence that cannot be attained otherwise.

Life is a treasure. But an even greater treasure is to know that your life is in God's hands. And to know that this life here on earth is only the beginning. You can be confident of these things because you belong to the One who makes all things new.

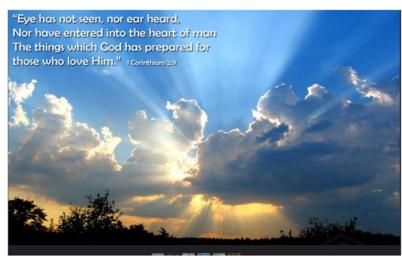
The best of what this world has to offer is but a sneak preview of what is to come. A foretaste of the feast, glimpse or the grandeur, a hint of heaven.

May God open your eyes to His presence and to His grace that fills each of your days. And may God richly bless you with the confident hope of heaven – a blessing granted you in grace, through

our Lord Jesus Christ.

Serving in Your Midst with Joy,

Pastor Derek J Engfelt



THE MESSENGER People Helping People!

An experience by congregation member – 1. Man on the Median – Our member was

driving and was about to make a left-hand turn at Saratoga and Prospect/West Campbell Ave when he saw a man with a sign asking for food or money. Our member rolled down his window and showed him the People Helping People clear bag so he could see what was inside. He then told the man" Our Church, ILC, made the bags to help people. The man said that he could really use this and then that he and others lived under the bridge on Prospect Ave. near Lawrence and that he was also collecting food and money for them. Our member gave him two bags and he thanked him profusely and said God Bless.

2. Young man sagging by the Store: Our member was shopping at Trader Joes and on his way out saw a young man looking very dejected with a sign asking for food. He sat next to the young man and asked him what was wrong. He answered that he had been living at the shelter and that the other day all his belongings were stolen from the shelter, including his cheap cell phone. He said he needed this in order to get around and look for a job. Our member mentioned about the food packages and that our Church ILC was always trying to help people. The young man said that was very special. Before saying goodbye, our member told the young man to try to keep his spirits up and to go back to the shelter. He said he was but was trying to get some food and money to get another phone. They talked about positivity and using all the gov't services available. The young took the two bags and he thanked our member profusely.

Helping anyone even if it is just a little means so much to people who literally have nothing. God's grace.

Come join us as we serve those in need in practical ways. As we do so, we're living into our ILC vision of "passionately responding to the grace we've received by joyfully serving others in the name of Jesus."

Sunday school provides a structure for teaching God's Word. Preaching isn't enough. A systematic teaching of the Scriptures – not just preaching (Acts 5:42) needs to occur through all age levels. Children, youth, and adults need opportunities for discovery, review, and interaction as they study God's principles.

Sunday School meets needs!



THE MESSENGER Volunteer to Serve on Sundays



For God is my witness, whom I serve in my spirit in the gospel of His Son.

Rom. 1:9

It takes many people to make Sunday mornings "happen". You're welcome to participate and be one of them!

Service Opportunities include:

Altar Guild: Prepare communion elements, prepare sanctuary for worship; clean up after worship.

Audio: Make sure our sound system is in good working order and monitor sound during the service.

Livestream: Control the livestream setup and camera during the service to support our "Church without Walls"

Coffee: Provide treats for fellowship time after service **Communion**: Help distribute communion during service

Greeter: Warmly welcome people at the door and hand them a bulletin

Lector: Read lessons in church

Liturgist: Assistant leader in worship, chant the opening liturgy

Usher: Hand out announcement pages, take offering, light and extinguish candles

If you have questions about any of these Sunday Morning Activities, please email Alyssa Morgan alyssamccoy@comcast.net











Noah's Ark problem



On Noah's Ark, things were getting a bit boring. Noah and his animals had spent many days secluded there, so they began organizing games and activities to entertain themselves. But, with all that pent-up energy, the games got rather rowdy, and a woodpecker ended up drilling a hole in the bottom of the ark. As water began to enter the boat, the hole grew larger. So, more water came in, and things got a bit worrying.

One by one, various animals attempted to repair the hole. They even got competitive about it because everyone wanted to be the animal that had saved the ark. The beaver built a dam over the hole, but that did not even work. Everyone was scared, worried that the boat would sink. That was, until the bee started talking. The bee explained to everyone how it was that bees always worked together as a team, each one doing the job for which they were best suited. On hearing this, all the animals set about working together, each one playing their part by contributing their own special talent. The birds grabbed onto parts of the ark with their beaks and flapped their wings furiously, lifting the boat slightly. The elephants sucked up the water in their trunks and shot it back into the sea. The fastest animals ran here and there, collecting materials. Those used to make nests took this material and stuffed it quickly into the hole.

And so, working together, the animals managed to reduce the amount of water coming into the ark, but they still had not stopped it completely. Desperate, they kept asking each other if any other animals could help. They searched and searched, but there were no other animals left in the ark. Then, suddenly, a little fish swam in through the hole. The animals realized that they still had not asked for help from all the sea creatures. They asked the little fish to go and summon help to save their boat. He swam off, and soon fish after fish arrived at the ark. Even a big whale came, and the whale pressed its great belly against the hole in the ship. This stopped any more water from entering, and it gave the animals on the ark time to seal the hole.

1 Corinthians 12:12: "Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ" (NIV). Affirm your team on their different giftings, but also show them that different gifts can work and fit together perfectly.

Copyright: Internet article

Men's Breakfast



Men's Breakfast is held the first Saturday of each month at Effie's Restaurant in Campbell (331 W. Hacienda Ave). We meet at 8:00am, share breakfast, fellowship, and engage in a free-wheeling, Bible topic discussion. We conclude by 9:30 am.

All men of the congregation – members and visitors – are welcome.

ILC Men enjoying a relaxing Saturday morning breakfast (photo credit: Tom Lowdermilk)





Women's Breakfast

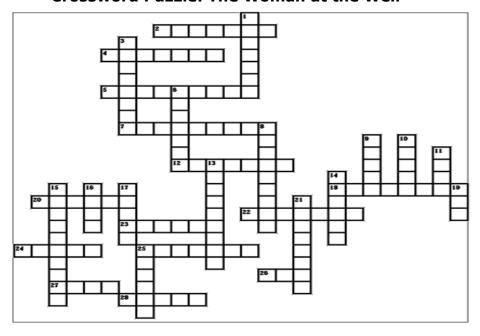
The Women's Breakfast is held the third Saturday of each month at Effie's Restaurant in Campbell (331 W. Hacienda Ave). We meet at 8:30am for a short devotion, after which we share breakfast and fellowship. We conclude by 10:00. All women of the congregation – members and friends – are welcome.



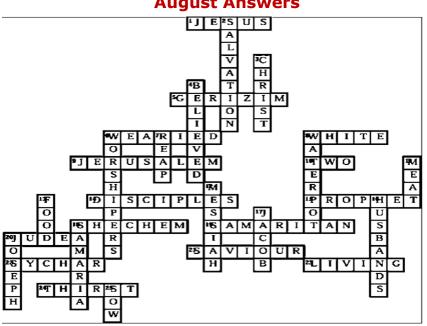
ILC ladies at the women's group meeting (photo credit: Cheryl Moorman)



Crossword Puzzle: The Woman at the Well



August Answers



Across

- 2 What the woman thought Jesus to be.
- Why Jesus sat down at the well.
- 5 Where the Jews worshiped.
- 7 They left Jesus at the well alone.
- 12 Means "the Anointed One".
- 18 The Samaritan woman had five of these.
- 20 Jacob's son buried near Sychar.
- 22 Region of Palestine between Judea and Galilee.
- 23 What those who drink living water never have again.
- 24 What Jesus asked the Samaritan woman to give Him.
- 25 Christ is this to the whole world.
- 26 Number of days Jesus spent in Samaria.
- 27 Gather in the crops
- 28 Dug the well near Sychar.

Down

- Mountain where the Samaritans worshiped.
- 3 What the men of Samaria did because they heard Jesus.
- 6 Where Jacob bought a possession.
- 8 Race descended from intermarriage of Jews and Assyrians.
- 9 Said, "I am He."
- 10 Where Jesus had been baptizing and making disciples.
- 11 What the disciples went to buy.
- 13 This is "of the Jews".
- 14 Greek equivalent of "Messiah"
- 15 God is seeking true ones.
- 16 "My____ is to do the will of Him that sent
- 17 Ripe or ready to be harvested
- 19 scatter seed
- 21 What the Samaritan woman left at the well.
- 25 Samaritan city near Jacob's well.

*To view the on numbers the crossword puzzle, please use the '-' minus and '+' plus sign on top of the pdf page to enlarge this page.





ILC EVENTS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE FOOD CART - <u>Please consider adding a package or two of food</u> to the cart whenever you shop. The hunger problem seems always to be with us, and all donations help. Thank you for keeping this in mind when you shop! The Community Service Committee

Community Support: Thank you for your continued donations of clothes (placed in bags), food, and children's books. The collection bins are located alongside the church office parking lot, and you can drop items (non-perishables) in the bins at any time. Your generosity is appreciated!

If you would like to make an E-Donation to ILC, then either download the Givelify App on your smartphone, or go online to http://ilcsaratoga.org/give. Givelify gives you a beautiful, easy-giving experience using your smartphone, tablet, or PC. There are no frustrating web forms or text-to-give codes to memorize. Even better, it's free to download and use. It's safe and secure, and for tax time, you have one-tap access to your complete donation records. Please consider making a contribution the old fashioned way, by cash or check, or electronically, via Givelify, PayPal. or Zeffy.







PayPal PayPal











Each Sunday, we adorn our altar in the sanctuary with flowers. If you would like to purchase flowers in honor of a special birthday or anniversary, please email our Office Administrator, Sheila Wallace at office.ilc.saratoga@gmail.com or Pastor Derek at pastord63@gmail.com

Also are available for sign-up in honor or memory of someone for:





and Poinsettia plants for Christmas!



*These flowers adorn the sanctuary for these special services!

Memories at ILC

EASTER

LADIES RETREAT





Habitat for Humanity









Summer Concerts In the Park

Thanksgiving Interfaith Service

Tree Decorating









Christmas Concert

Children's Christmas Play









Worship Offerings

We offer three worship experiences – traditional, contemporary and livestream. https://ilcsaratoga.org/live.php. Please check website for each week's Livestream start time.

Wednesday Bible Study: Expanding Our Vision

Join us Wednesday mornings in at 10:00 AM as we take a deeper dive into the second reading appointer for the coming Sunday. The class is entitled *Expanding Our Vision*. Because Sunday's sermon is almost always centered on the gospel selection, we don't often explore the second reading in any depth. This class gives us the opportunity to do so. In addition to taking a closer look at the second reading itself, we'll also consider any connections it has to the gospel reading for that Sunday.

We meet in person in the Fireside Room. Treats are served at the conclusion of the class (11:30). If you're unable to meet with us in person, you can join via Zoom by clicking here:

https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/83250020639

If you would like to participate or for more information regarding the material we are using, please contact Pastor Derek at pastord63@gmail.com

NOTE: There will be no class on September 10.

Thursday Morning Study

Thursday morning Bible study (Yokefellows) continues to meet each Thursday morning at 6:30 AM in the church Fireside Room. Refreshments are served. We are continuing our study on the minor prophets, now considering the witness of *Amos*. If you're unable to join us in person, you can participate from the comfort of your own home by clicking here:

 $\underline{https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/87581100281?pwd=dEgrblEwUFZlaU5NQy91RE9sWlNIQT09}$

We meet every Thursday at 6:30 AM, in person in the church Fireside Room and via livestream <u>Thursday AM Bible Study</u>). (If in person, you will also be able to partake of morning refreshments – coffee & pastries.) All are welcome! For any questions, please contact Jack Moorman <u>jack.moorman@gmail.com</u> or Pastor Derek <u>pastord63@gmail.com</u>.

Diving Deeper: Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm.

All are welcome to attend a Wednesday evening one-hour gathering, at which we will read and study the Scriptures that will be read in church the following Sunday. Not only will this event prepare you for a more meaningful experience on Sunday, it will also give you a chance to provide sermon input. And, of course, it's always meaningful to share in fellowship with others around the Word. Can't join us in person? Participate from the comfort of your home by clicking here: https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/87353776510

NOTE: There will be no class on September 10.

Enter the Bible

Luther Seminary has created a powerful, free resource to break down each book of Scripture to give you an in-depth overview of its background and context, its author and setting, the issues and themes you can find in it, and so much more. Click here to get access now: https://enterthebible.org/free-account-registration/

Lions in Sight

Got Glasses? Just a reminder that we have a donation box church office to collect used prescription eyeglasses, sunglasses (prescription or non-prescription), printer/toner cartridges, hearing aids and cell phones in partnership with the Lions Club. Your donation of these unused items will help those locally who cannot afford prescription glasses; the other items are used to fund the program. If you can't



drop the items in the box, please email Laura Gloner (<u>laura.gloner@gmail.com</u>), and she'll be happy to arrange a pickup or drop-off. (Website: https://www.lionsinsight.net/)

Echo, Echo...

Yes, that's right, ILC supports the <u>Echo Shop</u> in downtown Saratoga with our time and donations! The Echo Shop is a high- end resale shop, run by our neighbors at St. Andrews Episcopal Church since 1961. It's staffed entirely by volunteers, so all of the money raised can go directly to local charities, including Santa Maria Urban Ministries, as well as houseless, women's, and children's causes. High-end items can be donated directly to



the shop's red back door during business hours or by making an appointment. Our Children's Book Ministry flows through the shop, as well. Several women from ILC regularly volunteer and have a great time pricing, sorting, and stocking merchandise, while making new friends. If you have any questions about volunteering or donating, please contact Myra Sternlieb (msmyrabeth@yahoo.com) or Margit Chapman (margitc@aol.com). (website: The Echo Shop)

Wordoku has the same rules as regular Sudoku, but uses letters instead of numbers:

- Each of the nine rows is nine cells wide, and must contain the 9 letters used in the puzzle. So, each letter must appear once and only once in each row.
- The same is true with the nine columns. So, each letter must appear once and only once in each column. The third unit, the region, is a « 3 x 3 » square bordered by a thick line, and it must also contain the 9 letters used in the puzzle. So, each letter must appear once and only once in each « 3 x 3 » square.

When the grid is completed, the grey squares will reveal a nine-letter word or sentence at the center of the puzzle, between the two arrows.

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Hint
The plagues of Egypt
The 9 letters to use:

August Answer

THE PRISON

Did You Know?

«The Lord has sent Me (...) to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound.» (Isaiah 61:1). Jesus proclaims not merely opening of prisons, but every kind of liberty, a complete redemption.



Preschool from 2 years old to entry to 1st grade

License# 434414738



Immanuel Lutheran Church 14103 Saratoga Ave, Lower Fellowship Hall, Saratoga, CA 95070 Tel: 408.781.7874, info@ButterfliesAcademy.com

Please Call us at above number to schedule a tour

www.ButterfliesAcademy.com





Weddings at Immaunel Lutheran Church, Saratoga



Judy Onton is our ILC wedding coordinator.

To find out more, take a brochure from the pew rack, or check out our website: www.ilcsaratoga.org/weddings. Follow us on Instagram: ILCSaratogaweddings. Share with family and friends of this beautiful and charming santuary to hold their matrimony.



Many couples have joined hands to their lives at quaint church and its tranquil surroundings



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Coronavirus: I have put together hotline numbers and some useful and informative websites!



Coronavirus Hotline for Seniors - The hotline number is **1-833-544-2374.** Call **2-1-1** in 150 languages. 24/7

Text **211211** to receive texts on updates

https://www.kcra.com/article/gov-newsom-coronavirus-update-march-31/31983378

Emotional Listening Support Contact 24/7 Helpline: **1-800-932-4616** (Toll Free)

<u>Warm Line - Mental Health Association of San Francisco</u> (mentalhealthsf.org)

http://www.contacthelpline.org/emotional-listening-support

Santa Clara County (SSC) Update on Coronavirus – www.sccqov.org/sites/phd/DiseaseInformation/novel-coronavirus/Pages/home.aspx

Covid-19 on CDC - https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html
State of California hotline to deliver services & help for older Californians - 1-833-544-2374.

Anyone interested in reporting a possible violation - Can email <u>pubhealthreferral@dao.sccgov.org</u> or call 408-792-2300 to leave a voicemail.

For more info, please go to the following website. 1. https://covid19.ca.gov/



A man takes his sick Chihuahua to the veterinarian. They're immediately taken back to a room. Soon, a Labrador walks in, sniffs the Chihuahua for 10 minutes and leaves. Then a cat comes in, stares at the Chihuahua for 10 minutes and leaves. Finally, the doctor comes in, prescribes some medicine and hands the man a \$250 bill.

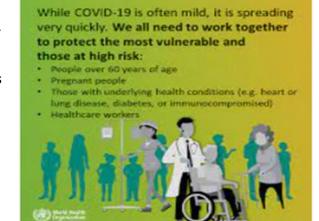
"This must be a mistake," the man says. "I've been here only 20 minutes!"

"No mistake," the doctor says. "It's \$100 for the lab test, \$100 for the cat scan and \$50 for the medicine."

Covid Coach" for self-care and mental health: App found in Google Play on Android phones and Apple Store on iPhone or iPad https://mobile.va.gov/app/covid-coach

Show empathy to those still susceptible to Covid-19. Some have multiple high-risk factors, making them vulnerable to the COVID-19 viruses and new sub-variants. Feeling more isolated and unable to partake in most human interactions, these people can do with a smile, a compassionate glance, or a kind nod that gives comfort, support, and encouragement!

God Bless, and Stay Safe! Vaskie Turner



Inspirational Christian Article - An Unexpected Witness

Mark, a young manager at a tech startup, faced career threats due to rumors spread by a colleague, David. David, also seeking promotion, falsely claimed Mark was often late and missed deadlines. The rumors damaged Mark's reputation.

Another colleague, Liam, a junior developer, observed the situation. Liam knew the rumors were untrue, as he saw Mark's dedication and quality of work. Confronting David directly seemed risky because David was well-liked and influential.

The turning point occurred during a meeting. The CEO praised Mark's project but mentioned concerns about his performance. Mark felt despair.

Liam then spoke up, stating the rumors about Mark were false. Liam provided specific examples of Mark's hard work.

The CEO listened attentively. Afterward, the CEO thanked Liam and asked Mark for project details. The truth was revealed.

Inspiration from a Courageous Truth

Liam's act cleared Mark's name and changed the company culture, showing that truth and integrity were valued over gossip. Liam's actions reminded Mark of the value of defending the truth for others.

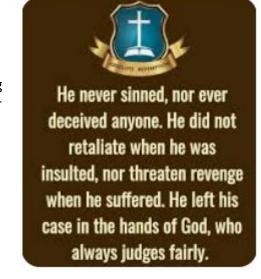
This story illustrates the impact of the "ninth commandment", "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor". The commandment requires us to speak and actively protect the truth. Liam's story inspires because it shows that standing for the truth can restore justice and create a more honest community.

We have broken the ninth commandment more often than we are aware. In some cases, especially for people we may not like, we may even mask our harsh words, teardowns of others, and gossip about them under the guise of "talking." However, in the wisdom and instruction of this commandment, these conversations should never begin or be spread at all.

Instead, this commandment encourages us to have a posture in speech and thought towards our neighbor that seeks their good name in light of the truth. This can be a challenge when sharing prayer requests in small groups or when discussing a frustrating coworker in the break room. Rather than merely seeking not to be negative, the ninth commandment leads us to conversations that seek the positive welfare and truth of our neighbor's name, rather than being skeptical and bitter when hearing a favorable statement about them. We may ask ourselves before we speak, "Is what I am saying honoring this person?" Truly, it is a beautiful thing to speak life-giving words of our neighbor! (Prov. 15:4, 16:24).

Far from being burdensome, God's commandments are life-giving (1 John 5:3). In a world of harsh judgments and critical insults, Christians have an opportunity for their conduct and speech to be exemplary by being gracious and uncomplaining to others in our speech rather than cruel and demeaning to our neighbors (Eph. 4:29). Furthermore, believers have a chance to honor people created in God's image by speaking truthfully and kindly about them (James 3:9).

Copyright: Internet article.



The Hills Are Alive... with ILC Hikers!

Come join us, as we explore part of the wonderful nature that surrounds our neighborhoods. These hikes are planned to be fun for the whole family. These will be "no one left behind" hikes. Invite your friends!

September 27: Lookout Trail & Maisie's Peak



The hike begins under the trees, as we traverse switchbacks and ascend to the edge Fremont Older Park. When we reach the top, we descend into the park itself. The trail opens up, and we will make our way through rolling hills to Maisie's Peak – named after Maisie Garrod, an ancestress of the Garrod family, that, in 1972, donated 120 acres to the Midpeninsula District which later became park land. Maisie's Peak is the highest point in the park.

Getting There: From the church, turn left, heading northeast on Saratoga Ave. toward Herriman Ave. In 1/4 mile, turn left. Process 1 mile, then turn right on Saratoga-Sunnyvale Rd. In 1/4 mile, turn left on Verda Vista Lane. In 1/4 mile, keep right at Sarahills Dr. and continue 1 mile to Pierce Rd. Turn left. In 1/2 mile, turn right on Mt. Eden Rd. Proceed 2-1/2 mikes to stop sign at the bottom of the hill. Turn left onto Steven's Canyon Rd. and immediately enter Canyon Picnic Area parking lot. Or Google here: 37°16'46.5"N 122°04'23.8"W

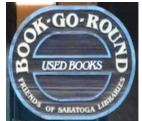
Time: 8:00 AM

Plan to arrive by 7:45 AM. We'll gather our group and plan our hike. We'll hit the road at 8:00 and plan to return to our cars by 10:00.

Please RSVP so I know you'll be coming. In case of bad weather, I'll send a cancelation note to all who RSVP by 9:00 PM the evening before. Dress in layers, bring a water bottle, and wear comfortable and sturdy shoes/boots. You can RSVP by emailing me at pastord63@gmail.com or calling 408-499-4866.

Book-Go-Round

For a treat, visit Book-Go-Round (BGR) at 14410 Oak Street in Saratoga. BGR is a secondhand bookstore operated by volunteers of the Friends of the Library and the National Charity League, Inc (NCL). The store opens at 12:00 PM every day (Saturdays at 10:00 AM). BGR has supported the Saratoga Library for 50 years and is packed with a wide range of books, as inexpensive as \$.25. Newer paperbacks are usually \$1 to \$3. Also available are also a number of children's books, as well as CD's, DVD's, VHS, Audio books, sheet music and records - all at good rates. Additionally, there is a comfortable seating arrangement, where visitors may enjoy classical music while perusing.

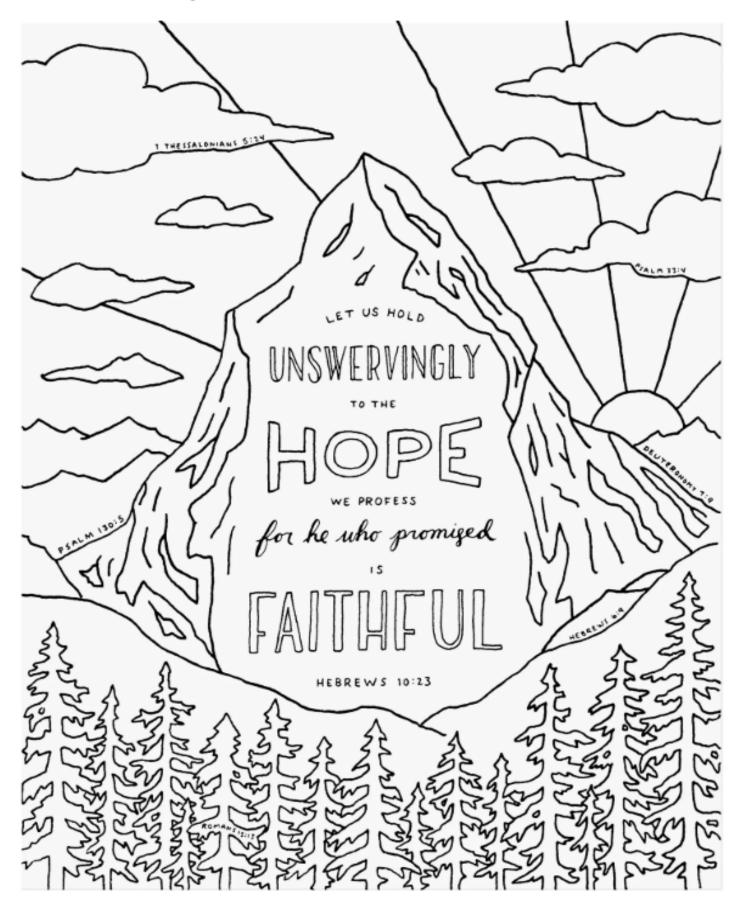


Children's Books Ministry



You may have noticed the green bins in the parking lot and wondered: Where do the children's books go? With a recent partnership with the Echo Resale Shop in downtown Saratoga, many of the children's books will now go to Santa Maria Urban Ministry (SMUM) in San Jose. SMUM runs a food pantry, helps the unhoused, and offers school-age tutoring support. Please donate new and used books that are just waiting to be the source of new adventure for young minds...

Bible Verse Coloring



^{**}Send in and share your creations and make our Newsletter "The Messenger" vibrant!

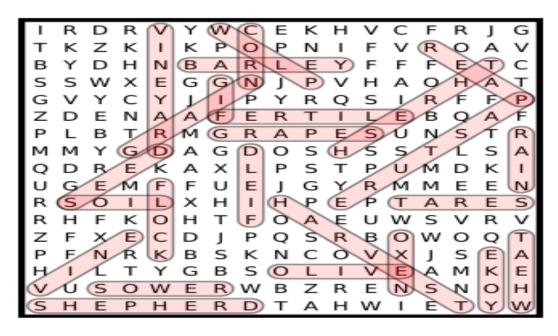
JOSEPH'S DREAMS

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BLESSINGS BROTHERS COAT COURAGE DIFFICULTIES DREAMER EGYPT FAITH FAMILY FAMINE
FORGIVENESS
GOD'S PLAN
GRAIN
HOPE
INTERPRETATION
JOSEPH
JOURNEY
LOVE

PHARAOH PROMISE SCRIPTURE SHEAVES STARS THRONE TRUST VISIONS WISDOM

August Answers



Bible Trivia Questions: Physical Bible

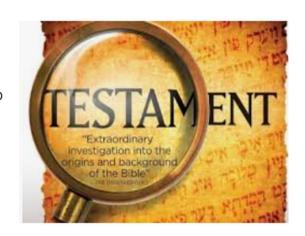




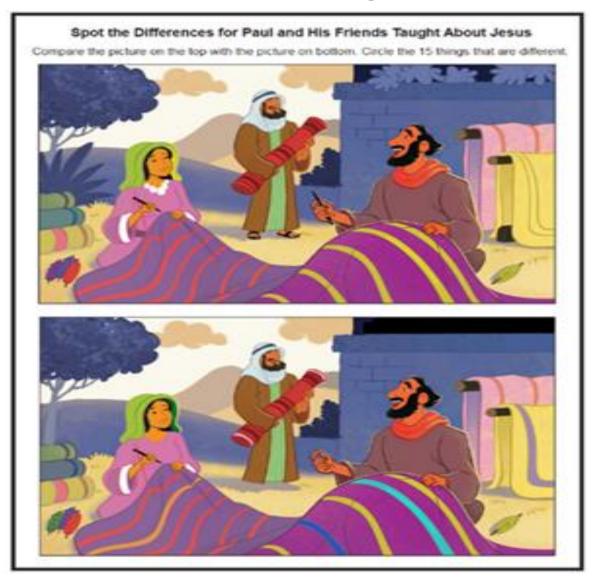
- 1. Who wrote the Bible?
- 2. Who is the central character in the Bible besides God?
- 3. What is the main purpose of the Bible?
- 4. Which medical professional wrote a book?
- 5. Who is believed to have written the Book of Acts?
- 6. Which book did a Roman tax collector write?
- 7. The word gospel refers to what?
- 8. Which group of Bible books mostly used Koine Greek for writing?
- 9. What is the Torah?
- 10. In what specific order are the Old Testament Bible books arranged?

August Answers

- 1. The Book of Genesis tells the story of the first family.
- 2. The Book of Exodus tells the story of the Israelites.
- 3. The Book of Revelation tells of the mark of the beast.
- 4. The Book of Jeremiah is the longest Bible book.
- 5. The Bible book of 3 John has the fewest words.
- 6. Hebrew is the original Old Testament language.
- 7. Greek is the original language of the New Testament.
- 8. The Christian Bible has been estimated to be translated into over 2000 languages.
- 9. Approximately 40 people wrote the Bible.
- 10. No originals exist.



Spot the Difference: Paul and his friends taught about Jesus.



Rotating Safe Car Park

This marks our 5th year of participation in Saratoga's *Rotating Safe Car Park* (RSCP) program. As such, we are opening our parking lot to between 10-20 guests for overnight parking/sleeping.

Many thanks to **Judy Onton**, leading the charge again this year, to her leadership team, and to the many volunteers who will be serving to make this act of hospitality a success.



Community Support:

Thank you for your ongoing donations of clothes (placed in bags), food and children's books. The collection bins are located alongside the church office parking lot, and donations (non-perishables) may be dropped off in the bins at any time. Your generosity is appreciated!



In the words of Jesus, "When you did it to one of the least of these... you did it to Me" (Matthew 25:40)



Vaccinations...

GOT YOUR SHOT? The latest updates on vaccine eligibility and how to schedule an appointment are available on the County's website at sccfreevax.org. In addition, residents without internet access or who need additional assistance can make appointments for the County Health System vaccine sites through the Valley Connection Call Center at 408-970-2000. The Call Center is open Monday through Friday from 7 am

to 9 pm and Saturday and Sunday from 8 am to 4:30 pm. Assistance is available in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, and other languages. If you have trouble making your appointment and need assistance, please let Pastor Derek know. We have people standing by ready to help. Influenza (Flu) - Public Health - County of Santa Clara (sccgov.org) CDC recommends that adults 50 years or older should talk with a healthcare provider to make sure they're up to date with pneumococcal vaccination – 10/23/2024.

CDC Recommends Second Dose of 2024-2025 COVID-19 Vaccine for People 65 Years and Older and for People Who are Moderately or Severely Immunocompromised –10/23/2024 https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2024/s1023-covid-19-vaccine.html - People 65 years and older and everyone 6 months and older who are moderately or severely immunocompromised

CDC Recommends Updated COVID-19 Vaccine – 09/06/2024 https://www.cdc.gov/covid/vaccines/index.html

CDC recommends that everyone ages 6 months and older get the updated 2024–2025 COVID-19 vaccine to protect against serious illness. The updated vaccine is safe and effective at protecting against COVID-19-related hospitalization and death, and it also reduces your chance of suffering the effects of Long-term COVID.

Getting vaccinated is especially important for people at the highest risk for severe illness, including:

- Older adults
- People who have <u>certain health conditions</u>
- People who have a weakened immune system
- People who are pregnant

COVID-19 Vaccine Frequently Asked Questions - https://www.cdc.gov/covid/vaccines/faq.html
Read more about the updated vaccine and CDC's recommendation. COVID-19 Vaccines | COVID-19 | CDC https://www.cdc.gov/covid/vaccines/

Use the CDC's COVID-19 booster tool to learn if and when you can get boosters to stay up to date with your COVID-19 vaccines. https://www.cdc.gov/covid/?CDC AAref Val=https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/booster-shot.html

CDC recommends that everyone stay up to date with the COVID-19 vaccination, including all primary series doses and boosters for their age group. Staying Up to Date with COVID-19 Vaccines | COVID-19 | CDC

One shot gets you caught up. Most people who haven't yet had a shot of the updated "bivalent" vaccine based on both the Wuhan and more recent omicron strains can now receive a single dose. That includes the 30% of Americans who didn't get vaccinated with the two-shot primary series of the original vaccine. Children 6 months to 5 years old who are unvaccinated or who had the original vaccine can receive multiple doses of the bivalent vaccine for kids.

Older and vulnerable adults can get another booster. If you are 65 or older and already had a dose of the bivalent vaccine, you can now get a second booster of that shot after at least four months. Those with compromised immunity who had a dose of the bivalent vaccine may also receive another shot after at least two months and additional doses at the discretion of their doctor.

Getting a COVID-19 vaccine after you recover from COVID-19 infection provides added protection against COVID-19.

People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised have different recommendations for COVID-19 vaccines, including boosters. https://www.cdc.gov/covid/vaccines/immunocompromised-people.html?CDC AAref Val=https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/immuno.html

^{**}Order your 4 free COVID-19 test kits per household now! https://special.usps.com/testkits

Come Worship With Us!



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Office.ilc.saratoga@gmail.com

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.ilcsaratoga.org

Traditional Service 9:00 a.m.

Come hear our wonderful choir, bell choir, and organist.

Communion is served each Sunday as part of the liturgy.

Visitors are always welcome!

Contemporary Service 10:45 a.m.

Features a more contemporary worship. Sing praises to the Lord with our Contemporary Worship Team. The music is uplifting and enjoyable for all ages. What a great way to start the week? Communion is served every Sunday.

About the Messenger

Please submit articles by the **15th** of the month, typed (preferably text or word processing file, but a paper copy is ok too), and should be approximately **150 words**. If you are interested in submitting an article for publication in our Newsletter, please contact our office.

Editor: Vaskie Turner Webmaster: Aart Bik

https://ilcsaratoga.org/pdf/newsletter_2025_09.pdf

"THERE IS A PLACE FOR YOU HERE!"

Immanuel Lutheran Church of Saratoga 14103 Saratoga Ave. Saratoga, CA 95070

